

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. - 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:

~~reading means for reading~~ a scanner which reads a document and ~~providing provides~~  
image data on the document as first image data;

an image processing unit which processes ~~means for processing~~ the first image data  
provided by the scanner ~~reading means~~;

~~image forming means for forming~~ a printer which forms an image on a sheet of paper  
corresponding to input image data;

an operating condition image producing ~~means for producing unit which produces~~  
image data as second image data, indicative of ~~at least one of~~ operating conditions which  
determine image quality of the scanner ~~reading means~~, the ~~image processing means~~ and the  
~~image forming means~~;

a synthesizing ~~means for synthesizing unit which synthesizes~~ the first image data read  
by the scanner and processed by the image processing ~~means~~ unit with the second image data  
produced by the operating condition image producing unit ~~means~~;

~~means for controlling~~ a control unit which controls the printer ~~image forming means~~  
to form an image corresponding to the first and second image data synthesized by the  
synthesizing ~~means~~ unit on the sheet of paper;

a designating unit which designates ~~means for designating~~ whether or not the first  
image data obtained by the image processing unit ~~means~~ should be synthesized with the  
second image data produced by the operating condition image producing unit ~~means~~; and

said synthesizing unit ~~means~~ synthesizes the first image data obtained by the image  
processing unit ~~means~~ with the second image data produced by the operating condition image

producing unit means and provides resultant synthesized image data in a case where the designating unit means designates synthesis and provides only the first image data obtained by the image processing unit means in other cases.

20. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes a character image data producing unit which produces ~~means for producing~~ a character image data indicative of the operating conditions.

21. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes a pattern code image data producing unit which produces ~~means for producing~~ a pattern code image data indicative of the operating conditions.

22. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing~~ an input conditions indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of input conditions of the scanner reading means.

23. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing~~ a resolution and sampling rate indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of a resolution and sampling rate of the scanner reading means.

24. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing~~ an output conditions indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of output conditions of the image forming unit means.

25. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing~~ a processing conditions indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of processing conditions of the image processing unit means.

26 - 29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing~~ an input conditions indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of input conditions of the ~~reading means~~ scanner.

31. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing a~~ resolution and sampling rate indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of a resolution and sampling rate of the ~~reading means~~ scanner.

32. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing a~~ printer output conditions indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of output conditions of the ~~image forming means~~ printer.

33. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said operating condition image producing unit means includes ~~means for producing a~~ processing conditions indicative unit which produces an image data indicative of processing conditions of the image processing unit means.

34. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the image corresponding to the second image data is user readable.